

## **Historic, archived document**

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.



# NBC

SUSTAINING

ADVERTISER

UNCLE SAM'S FOREST RANGERS #148

WRITER

PROGRAM TITLE

OK

CHICAGO OUTLET. N. WCFL

MAY 3, 1935

FRIDAY

( )

TIME

( )

DATE

( )

DAY

PRODUCTION

ANNOUNCER

ENGINEER

REMARKS



ANNOUNCER: Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers.

ORCHESTRA: QUARTET: RANGER SONG

ANNOUNCER: High up on the tip top of numerous peaks and mountain ridges within the National Forests are little one room houses whose four walls consist mostly of windows. These are the lookout stations where the fire lookouts keep lonely vigil over Uncle Sam's vast forest areas during the dangerous months watching always for the tell tale smoke of fires. With the coming of warm weather the snow banks have disappeared from all save the high peaks and the forests are getting dry. The men who will occupy the lookouts have been selected and are being instructed about their duties. Many of them have been selected from among the boys in the CCC camps and when any of these boys get an offer of a job the officers in charge of the camps are always glad to release them from their enrollment. On the Pine Cone District there are two fire lookout stations. One of the boys from CCC Camp Robbins has been selected for the Bald Peak Station and is about to be installed in his new job. Here they are -

JIM: Jerry, have you raised the flag yet?

JERRY: No, not yet, Jim. I thought I'd do it when I go out to get the temperature and humidity.

JIM: Yeah - I've just been looking over the humidity readings for the past week. They're running a little low.

JERRY: Yes, I've noticed. Things are beginning to get pretty dry some places.

JIM: I wonder if we hadn't better put our lookout man on Bald Peak.



JERRY: Yes, I think he ought to be on duty. It's a wonder Sargent Ellsworth hasn't said something about it.

JIM: Well, I think I'll beat him to it this time. (PHONE RINGS)

JERRY: I'll get it. (TAKES DOWN RECEIVER) Hello! This is the Pine Cone Ranger Station. - Yeah, just a minute - (TO JIM) For you Jim - sounds like the boss.

JIM: Hello? - Oh, hello Bert -- (CHUCKLES) Well sir, Jerry and I were just talking about that very thing. I thought I'd beat you to it. - (LAUGHS) Well, I guess we're agreed it's time to put him on. -- All right, Bert, I'll send Jerry up today - Yes sir, I've arranged to put on that red headed CCC boy, Pinkie McFarland. - Yes, I've made all arrangements with Captain Bluff to release him. All right Bert, I'll attend to it - Goodbye. (HANGS UP)

JERRY: The Gaffer seems to have had the same idea, huh?

JIM: Yes, he thinks we ought to get Pinkie up on Bald Peak today. - So you're elected, Jerry - I'll call the CCC camp and ask Captain Bluff to have Pink get ready to go. - As soon as you get your breakfast you'd better get started.

JERRY: The horses are in the barn and we've got the equipment and stuff ready to load - that is, everything except the food and meat and butter'n such stuff.

JIM: Think you can get it all on one pack horse?

JERRY: Yes, I believe we can - you know we took a lot of the bulky stuff like the bedding on the toboggan the day I frosted my feet.





JIM: Well you can take Dolly for Pink to ride but I hope he can reach the stirrups - I don't like to have 'em changed. It always takes a week to get the leathers back in shape so they hang right.

JERRY: I think he can reach 'em, Jim. You'd be surprised the way that kid has stretched out since he came to Camp Robbins and if you think he isn't all man you ought to have seen him pack me on his back out of that lookout.

(DOOR OPENS)

BESS: (COMING UP) Say now - wouldn't you men ever come to a meal without being called?

JIM: Is breakfast ready?

BESS: Of course it's ready and waiting.

JIM: Good - (CHUCKLES) There's the answer to Jerry's prayer. He's in a hurry to get started this morning.

BESS: Where are you going, Jerry?

JERRY: Going to take Pinkie up to Bald Mountain and break him in to his lookout duties.

BESS: Pinkie!? What a name for a man. - Hasn't he a real name?

JIM: (CHUCKLES) My good woman, his full name is William Weston McFarland (CHUCKLES) But I reckon the first day he went to school that red hair got him christened Pinkie and he's been Pinkie ever since. The other day when he filled out his personal statement sheet for this job he had to hesitate to recollect what his real name was.



BESS: Well, it seems to me its a perfectly good name and I should think you'd call him by it - besides I don't want you to call me "your good woman."

JIM: What's the matter, Bess? Aren't you well this morning?

BESS: I've got work to do today too, and I want to get breakfast out of the way.

JIM: What is it Bess - can I help you?

BESS: Yes you can, Jim - I'm going to start house cleaning.

JIM: Oh - now - Bess, you don't figure on doing anything in this office?

BESS: It needs it worse than any other place in the house.

JIM: Never mind putting up the flag Jerry - I've just discovered I've got to make a field trip today too --

(FADEOUT)

MUSICAL INTERLUDE

(FADE IN)

JERRY: Well Pink are you sure you have all your belongings here? You haven't forgotten anything?

PINK: No sirree Mr. Quick. Everything's here.

JERRY: Let's skip that Mister stuff Pink. Between you and me it's man to man.

PINK: Thanks Jerry. - Gee, you rangers sure are swell guys.

JERRY: Well, what do you say we get this pack tied on and get started?

PINK: Yep, let's go - How do yuh tie it, Jerry?

JERRY: Throw a diamond hitch on it. Haven t you ever packed a horse?

PINK: Nope, but I'd like to learn.

JERRY: All right, you watch me put on this hitch and we'll be on our way. I want to follow the telephone line so we can watch for any breaks

(FADE OUT)



(INTERVAL)

(FADEIN) (SOUND OF HORSES WALKING)

JERRY: (CALLING) Hey you coming, Pink?

PINK: (OFF) All right - I guess -

JERRY: That saddle getting a little sore?

PINK: (COMING UP) Don't you think we ought to get off and walk a little ways? It would kinda rest the horses you know.

JERRY: (LAUGHS) Whoa Spark - (HORSES STOP) I know how you feel, Pink. Sore - get off and walk but I think I'll ride. My feet are still too tender for hard climbing.

PINK: (WITH RELIEF) There-re - oh boy, what a relief. It ain't my feet that's tender.

JERRY: (LAUGHS) Well, we'll soon be there, Pink. (CLICKS TO HORSE) Spark - Bally (SOUND OF HORSES WALKING) (CALL) Hey Pink throw something at Bally - hold holding back.

PINK: (OFF) Hey you - Bally - Git there! (HORSE TROTting UP. THEY WALKING)

(FADEOUT)

(INTERVAL)

(FADEIN)

JERRY: Whoa Spark. (LOUDER) Well, here we are, Pink - Behold your summer home.

PINK: (COMING UP) (BREATHING HARD) Josh Jerry, ain't it great? Right on the top of the world - say, look at those mountains with all the snow on 'em. Where's that?





JERRY: That's the Sawtooth Range - some of that snow will stay there all summer.

PINK: Sure purty, ain't it? Gosh! And I kin stand here every day and look at it - What's them sharp mountains over there?

JERRY: That's the Cathedral Range - The Sawtooth is the main divide - The Cathedral range is an off shoot from it. See? Over there where they join is a low saddle we call Snow Pass and beyond Snowy Pass is Bonanza Basin. We've got some sheep camps over there. Now follow my finger, Pink, and you'll see Blue Lake. See it?

PINK: O-o-o-o yah. Gosh, ain't it purty? - Gee!

JERRY: Now over here to the north - that big mountain with the snow on it is Cloud Peak.

PINK: Oh yeah. That's where we fought fire last summer.

JERRY: Yes - it's one of the peaks you use to orient your map by. Another one is the other lookout - Windy Peak down to the South.

PINK: Oh, is that Windy Peak?

JERRY: Yeah. With your binoculars you'll be able to see the lookout tower.

PINK: What do you mean "orient the map?"

JERRY: Why line it up with the points of the compass. I'll show you when we get it set up. -- Now, while I connect up the telephone and test it you unpack Old Bally -

PINK: All right, Jerry -





JERRY: That box in the top pack - you know the one I put your duffel in -

PINK: Yeah?

JERRY: The bread and the eggs are in the bottom so be careful with it.

PINK: You bet I will. (HORSE WALKING) Whoa Bally, whoa. Jerry, he won't stand still, he wants to eat.

JERRY: (OFF) Well, tie him up.

PINK: Gee, he's hungry.

JERRY: There's some oats in that right hand pannier. Give each horse some.

PINK: I sure will.

JERRY: And Pink - when you get the horses unsaddled - fetch a bucket of water. We'll have to get supper started

(FADEOUT)

(MUSICAL INTERLUDE)

(FADEIN)

PINK: Gee Jerry, that's the best supper I ever et. You got the cooks down at the CCC camp beat all to pieces -

JERRY: (LAUGHS) That's cause you were hungry - here, here's a couple more hot biscuits and some fried potatoes left - you know the rule in camp - Cook only as much as you can eat and eat all you cook.

PINK: I can't Jerry, honest, I'm full.

JERRY: It's got to be done - Here's that honey You eat the biscuits and I'll eat the spuds. - Nothing goes to waste up here.

PINK: O.K. (CHEWING & TALKING) I got the best of it at that. There All cleaned up -



JERRY: All right - and now to wash the dishes.

PINK: Aw, let's rest a while first.

JERRY: Lesson No. 1 for bachelors on the lookout job, Pink, is never let your housework get ahead of you. That means - as soon as you finish eating, dishes first, rest afterwards. If I ever come into your station and find dirty dishes setting around - down the hill you go.

PINK: O.K. Jerry, you're the boss.

JERRY: That's why I put the water on the stove when we sat down to supper. It's hot now. I'll wash - you can wipe (CLATTER OF WASHING DISHES)

PINK: Where's the towels? -

JERRY: They're wrapped around the bread.

PINK: Yeah, here they are. Say what's in this tin can?

JERRY: Oh, that's a batch of doughnuts that Mrs. Robbins sent up for you.

PINK: Oh gee! That's swell. Tell her thanks a lot, will yuh?  
(DISHES RATTLE)

JERRY: Pink, I can't figure out what's the matter with that telephone line - it's plumb dead. - Here, wipe these frying pans and we're all done.

PINK: O.K. S'pose it's broken some place - I mean the telephone line.

JERRY: I watched the line all the way up. It looked all right.

PINK: Lemme see, where's that telephone manual you gave me to read - here it is - I'll ask you the questions. Here - didja put in new batteries?



JERRY: Check.

PINK: Is there good connection to ground?

JERRY: Yes.

PINK: Did ja clean the lightning arrester?

JERRY: Yep.

PINK: Gee, I don't know what to do next.

JERRY: Well, tomorrow we'll trace out the trouble - say, what time is it?

PINK: 8:00 o'clock.

JERRY: Let's try the radio - 7 a.m. and 8 p.m. are the scheduled hours for getting on the air.

PINK: That's what I want to learn is the radio. Spose we can raise anybody?

JERRY: Myabe Jim will be on the air.

PINK: Let me listen will you?

JERRY: Sure, here you take one ear phone, I'll use the other.

PINK: Hot dog!

JERRY: Now watch closely how it's done because you will have to make contracts with the smoke chasers all summer. See, you throw this little switch this way when you want to listen. Now we'll listen first if anyone is talking --

PINK: I don't hear a thing.

JERRY: Now you turn it this way when you want to talk. I'll give the call signals (REPEAT SIGNALS IN A MONOTONE) Forest Service Station WXAQ calling WXAX; WXAQ calling WXAX. Go ahead (ASIDE) Now you switch it back, see?



PINK: (EXCITEDLY) There he is.

JERRY: Sh-h-h. O.K. Jim we got you. We found everything at the lookout in good shape. The telephone line is dead. Haven't been able to trace the trouble. - We'll shoot that the first thing in the morning. I'm going over manuals and job lists with Pink to make sure he understands his duties and knows how to read his instruments. Pinkie wants to talk to you. - Go ahead Pink talk -

PINK: A-a-a- Hello - I just want to tell you I appreciate your giving me this job. I'm sure gonna tend to business 'n' give it the best I got n-n- tell Mrs. Robbins thanks a lot for those doughnuts she sent me.

JERRY: (LAUGHS) Pink has a little stage fright Jim. We'll keep a schedule with you at seven in the morning. I'll have Pink do the calling for practice. GO AHEAD (PAUSE)

JERRY: Yes, I think I'll get home tomorrow night if I have good luck with the telephone - I'm signing off. - Forest Service Station WXAQ signing off.

PINK: Is that all there is to it?

JERRY: That's all -

PINK: Say! - Why monkey with the telephone? Let's use the radio.

JERRY: How would you report a fire if nobody happened to be listening? With a telephone you can call somebody any time.

PINK: That's right too.

JERRY: You will have a chance to use the radio taking reports from your smoke chasers and fire crews. You see you're the key man in the defence system. - We put a lot of responsibility on you.







PINK: I'm going to show you I can do it. And some day I'm going to trade this nickel guard badge for one of those bronze badges like yours. I'm going to be one of Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers

JERRY: That's the spirit Pink. You will have to take a college course in Forestry. It will mean a lot of hard work and it will be a long tough grind but I'll help you.

PINK: Yes, and Miss Mary said she'd help me get started and send me some books. I'm not afraid to work

JERRY: You've got the brains Pink - and the ambition. Never give up. You can do it.

(FADEOUT)

ANNOUNCER: Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers will be on the air again next Friday at this time. The National Broadcasting Company presents this program with the cooperation of the United States Forest Service.

fb/9:35 AM  
4/30/35

